

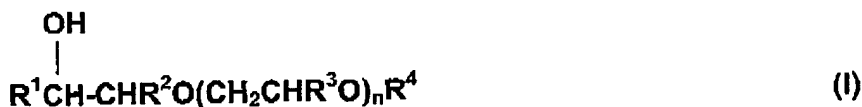
Appl. No.: 09/896,853
Grp./A.U. 1751

Amendment to the Claims:

Claims 1-10 (cancelled)

Claim 11. **(Currently amended)** An aqueous laundry detergent composition comprising consisting essentially of a hydroxy mixed ether.

Claim 12. (Previously added) The composition of claim 11 wherein the hydroxy mixed ether corresponds to formula (I):



wherein R¹ is a linear or branched alkyl group containing from about 2 to 18 carbon atoms, R² is hydrogen or a linear or branched alkyl group containing from about 2 to 18 carbon atoms, R³ is hydrogen or methyl, R⁴ is a linear or branched alkyl or alkenyl group containing from 1 to about 22 carbon atoms and n is a number from 1 to about 50, and wherein the total number of carbon atoms in the substituents R¹ and R² is at least 6.

Claim 13. (Previously added) The composition of claim 11 wherein the hydroxy mixed ether is present in the composition in an amount of from about 1 to 60% by weight, based on the weight of the composition.

Claim 14. (Previously added) The composition of claim 11 wherein the hydroxy mixed ether is present in the composition in an amount of from about 10 to 15% by weight, based on the weight of the composition.

Claim 15. (Previously added) The composition of claim 11 further comprising a co-surfactant component selected from the group consisting of an anionic surfactant, a nonionic surfactant, a cationic surfactant, an amphoteric surfactant, a zwitterionic surfactant, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 16. (Previously added) The composition of claim 15 wherein the co-surfactant

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component is present in the composition in an amount of from about 1 to 40% by weight, based on the weight of the composition.

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Claim 17. **(Currently amended)** A process for enhancing cleaning performance of an aqueous laundry detergent composition comprising adding a ~~hydroxy~~ hydroxy mixed ether to the composition.

Claim 18. (Previously added) The process of claim 17 wherein the hydroxy mixed ether corresponds to formula

(I):



wherein R¹ is a linear or branched alkyl group containing from about 2 to 18 carbon atoms, R² is hydrogen or a linear or branched alkyl group containing from about 2 to 18 carbon atoms, R³ is hydrogen or methyl, R⁴ is a linear or branched alkyl or alkenyl group containing from 1 to about 22 carbon atoms and n is a number from 1 to about 50, and wherein the total number of carbon atoms in the substituents R¹ and R² is at least 6.

Claim 19. (Previously added) The process of claim 17 wherein the hydroxy mixed ether is present in the composition in an amount of from about 1 to 60% by weight, based on the weight of the composition.

Claim 20. (Previously added) The process of claim 17 wherein the hydroxy mixed ether is present in the composition in an amount of from about 10 to 15% by weight, based on the weight of the composition.

Claim 21. (Previously added) The process of claim 17 wherein the composition further comprises a co-surfactant component selected from the group consisting of an anionic surfactant, a nonionic surfactant, a cationic surfactant, an amphoteric surfactant, a

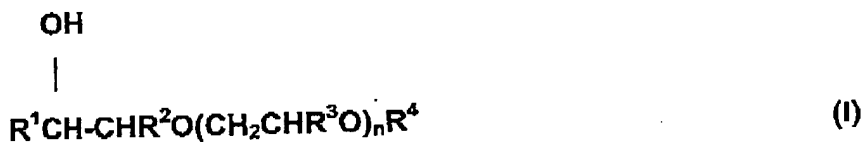
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zwitterionic surfactant, and mixtures thereof.

β^3 Claim 22. **(Currently amended)** The ~~composition process~~ of claim 21 wherein the co-surfactant component is present in the composition in an amount of from about 1 to 40% by weight, based on the weight of the composition.

Please add the following new claims.

β^4 Claim 23. (new) A process for cleaning textiles comprising contacting the textiles with an aqueous laundry detergent containing a hydroxy mixed ether corresponding to formula (I):



wherein R^1 is a linear or branched alkyl group containing from about 2 to 18 carbon atoms, R^2 is hydrogen or a linear or branched alkyl group containing from about 2 to 18 carbon atoms, R^3 is hydrogen or methyl, R^4 is a linear or branched alkyl or alkenyl group containing from 1 to about 22 carbon atoms and n is a number from 1 to about 50, and wherein the total number of carbon atoms in the substituents R^1 and R^2 is at least 6.